

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO  
EASTERN DIVISION AT COLUMBUS**

ROBERT PHELPS,

Petitioner,

:

Case No. 2:23-cv-01697

- vs -

District Judge Edmund A. Sargus, Jr.  
Magistrate Judge Michael R. Merz

WARDEN, Grafton Correctional  
Institution,

:

Respondent.

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**ORDER ADOPTING REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

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The Court has reviewed the Report and Recommendations of United States Magistrate Judge Michael R. Merz (ECF No. 7) to whom this case was referred pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(b) and noting that no objections have been filed thereto and that the time for filing such objections under Fed. R. Civ. P. 72(b) has expired, hereby ADOPTS said Report and Recommendations.

Accordingly, it is hereby ORDERED that the Petition be DISMISSED with prejudice. Petitioner is DENIED any requested certificate of appealability and the Court hereby certifies to the United States Court of Appeals that an appeal would be objectively frivolous and therefore should not be permitted to proceed *in forma pauperis*.

March 25, 2024.

s/Edmund A. Sargus, Jr.  
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District Judge Edmund A. Sargus, Jr.  
United States District Court